

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)



SURREY

DATE: 2 NOVEMBER 2020

LEAD OFFICER: ZENA CURRY, AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER

SUBJECT: REIGATE TOWN CENTRE – SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION FROM 30MPH TO 20MPH

AREA(S) AFFECTED: REIGATE

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

At the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee held on 22 September 2014, a petition was presented by Reigate Methodist Church requesting that the speed limit in Reigate High Street be reduced to 20mph. Speed limit assessments have been carried out on a number of roads within Reigate town centre, following the process set out in Surrey's policy "Setting Local Speed Limits". As a result of these assessments it is proposed that the existing 30mph speed limit, be reduced to a 20mph speed limit as shown in **Annex 3**. This report seeks approval for the change to the speed limit in accordance with Surrey's policy.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Local Committee (Reigate & Banstead) is asked to:**

- i. Note the results of the speed assessments undertaken, shown in **Table 1**.
- ii. Agree that, based upon the evidence, **the speed limit be reduced from 30mph to 20mph** on the following roads in Reigate town centre;
  - A25 Church Street, from the eastern property boundary of number 46 Church Street to its junction with the A217 Bell Street.
  - A25 High Street, from its junction with A217 Bell Street to a point 4m to the west of the junction with D1304 Park Lane.
  - A217 Bancroft Road, its entire length.
  - A217 Bell Street, from its junction with A25 Church Street to the southern property boundary of 109B A217 Bell Street.
  - D131 Access from A217 Bell Street to Morrisons, from its junction with A217 Bell Street to end of the publicly maintained section of highway (a distance of 60m).
- iii. Authorise the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit change, revoke any existing traffic orders necessary to implement

the change, and, subject to no objections being upheld, that the order be made;

- iv. Authorise delegation of authority to the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee and the local divisional member to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.
- v. Note that if the scheme has not been successful, then further engineering measures or a return to the original higher speed limit may be necessary.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To enable the change in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph, on the selected roads above within Reigate town centre in accordance with Surrey County Council's Speed Limit Policy.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020, the government announced that funding would be available to local governments to provide temporary measures to support social distancing and active travel as part of the COVID19 recovery. Surrey County Council was granted £848,000 by the government to support the roll out of the first phase of active travel schemes, with Surrey County Council providing match funding. The focus of this funding was within town centres and shopping areas, to give people confidence to return to the shops and restaurants and to support the high streets.
- 1.2 As part of the active travel measures in Reigate town centre, a temporary cycle lane was installed. In order to support the temporary cycle lane a temporary 20mph speed limit was also introduced, using the Road Traffic Act 1984 which enables traffic authorities to temporarily reduce the speed limit when such measures are introduced. However, once the temporary cycle lane was removed the temporary 20mph speed limit also had to be removed and existing legislation does not permit traffic authorities to install temporary speed limits unless road works or other measures restricting the use of the road to traffic is installed.
- 1.3 However, requests to reduce the speed limit within Reigate town centre have been received previously. At the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee meeting held on 22 September 2014, a petition was presented by Reigate Methodist Church requesting that the speed limit in the High Street be reduced to 20mph. As a result of the petition, it was agreed by the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee that speed surveys would be carried out, using the Local Committee's Revenue budget to carry out speed surveys to assess whether or not the existing mean speeds within the High Street, complied with Surrey County Council's Speed Limit Policy for a 20mph speed limit.

<b>2. ANALYSIS:</b>
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### Surrey County Council's Speed Limit Policy

- 2.1 Surrey County Council has a Speed Limit Policy in place to set speed limits that are successful in managing vehicle speeds and are appropriate for the main use of the road. Under the Speed Limit Policy, the Area Highways Team will lead on assessing a potential change to a speed limit. Following an assessment of the existing mean vehicle speeds, the results of this assessment and recommendations (in accordance with this policy) will be presented to the Local Committee, who will then decide whether or not the speed limit change should go ahead.
- 2.2 Following the petition presented to the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014, as shown in **Annex 1**, three automatic 24hour a day, 7 days a week speed assessments were carried out in March and April 2016. A handheld speed survey was carried out in Church Street in March 2016 as there was no appropriate street furniture to which the 24 hour a day, 7 days a week speed assessment survey equipment could be attached to. The locations of these surveys are shown in **Annex 2**.
- 2.3 Surrey County Council's Speed Limit Policy sets thresholds for existing mean vehicle speeds below which a speed limit can be reduced using signs alone, without the need for engineering measures. The existing mean vehicle speed threshold for a reduction in speed limit from the existing 30mph to 20mph is 24mph. **Table 1** below shows the results of the speed assessments and shows that each of the existing measured mean average vehicle speeds meets the threshold within SCC's Speed Limit policy for a speed limit reduction to 20mph.

**Table 1: Comparison of measured mean speeds with SCC Speed Limit policy for a reduced speed limit**

	Existing speed limit	Measured mean speeds	Complies with policy
A25 Church Street - Location 1	30mph	23.4mph	20mph
A217 Bell Street - Location 2	30mph	22.1mph	20mph
A217 Bancroft Road - Location 3	30mph	23.9mph	20mph
A25 High Street – Location 4	30mph	22.4mph	20mph

- 2.4 A plan showing the extent of the proposed new 20mph speed limit is shown in **Annex 3**.

## ITEM 8

- 2.5 Surrey County Council holds personal injury collision data, which is provided by Surrey Police. An assessment has been carried out, of the number of personal injury collisions that have occurred on those roads, and sections of road, that are included within the proposed 20mph speed limit. This assessment shows that, during the most recent 3 year period for which data is available (01/06/2017 to 31/05/2020) the majority of collisions within these roads have occurred along Bell Street. Many these collisions involved turning movements at junctions. Speed has not been listed as a contributory factor in any of the collisions listed below in **Table 2**.

**Table 2: Personal injury collision data over the most recent 3 year period for which data is available (from 01/06/2017 to 31/05/2020)**

	<b>Slight</b>	<b>Serious</b>	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Total</b>
Church Street	2 (1 cyclist)	0	0	2
Bell Street	9	2 (1 pedestrian)	0	11
Bancroft Road	1	1 (pedestrian)	0	2
High Street	3	0	0	3
			<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

### **3. OPTIONS:**

#### **3.1 Option 1**

##### **Reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph:**

On the following roads within Reigate town centre;

- A25 Church Street, from the eastern property boundary of number 46 Church Street to its junction with the A217 Bell Street.
- A25 High Street, from its junction with A217 Bell Street to a point 4m to the west of the junction with D1304 Park Lane.
- A217 Bancroft Road, its entire length.
- A217 Bell Street, from its junction with A25 Church Street to the southern property boundary of 109B A217 Bell Street.
- D131 Access from A217 Bell Street to Morrisons, from its junction with A217 Bell Street to end of the publicly maintained section of highway (a distance of 60m).

#### **Option 2**

**The speed limit remains unchanged.**

#### **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 Consultation has been carried out with Surrey Police, who have no objection to the proposed 20mph speed limit as set out in Option 1 and **Annex 3**.
- 4.2 Subject to Local Committee approval, consultation will also be carried out with statutory consultees as part of the Traffic Regulation Order process.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1 The cost of changing any speed limit includes legal advertisement costs associated with the statutory process, together with the costs of design and implementation. The design costs have already been met by the governments active travel fund as part of the design of the temporary cycle lane.
- 5.2 The cost of the legal advertisement associated with the statutory process and the implementation of these works will be in the region of £6,000 and will be met by the active travel match funding provided by Surrey County Council.
- 5.3 If the Committee support Option 1 as set out in paragraph 3.1, works to reduce the existing speed limit within Reigate town centre as shown in **Annex 3**, can be implemented this financial year.

#### **6. WIDER IMPLICATIONS:**

<b>Area assessed:</b>	<b>Direct Implications:</b>
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications
Equality and Diversity	No significant implications
Localism (including community involvement and impact)	No significant implications
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications
Public Health	No significant implications

#### **7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 7.1 This report sets out the results of a speed limit assessment for roads within Reigate town centre, which were carried out following the submission of a petition to the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee on 22 September 2014 requesting that the speed limit on the High Street be reduced to 20mph.
- 7.2 It is recommended that Option 1 is implemented.

<b>8. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:</b>
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- 8.1 Should the Local Committee decide to proceed with Option 1, the proposal to make a Speed Limit Order for the reduction in speed limit will be advertised in the local press. If there are no objections to the Order to reduce the speed limit, the Order will be made, and the contractor will be instructed to install the necessary signing.
- 8.2 If the Local Committee does not agree with Option 1, then the existing speed limits will remain.

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**Contact Officer:**

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**Consulted:**

Surrey Police

**Annexes:**

Annex 1 – Petition received by the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014.

Annex 2 – Location of speed surveys.

Annex 3 – Plan showing extent of proposed 20mph speed limit.

**Background papers:**

- Petition to the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee 22 September 2014, “Reduce the speed limit on the A25 High Street, Reigate from 30mph to 20mph”.